

VERDUN ATTACK
LESS FURIOUS,
PARIS REPORTS

Violence of the Assault by the Germans on French Stronghold Has Greatly Diminished, but the Reason May Be Merely to Gain Fresh Impetus

NEW BATTLE LINE
NEARER FORTRESS

At One Point, the Germans Are Within 5 1/2 Miles of Their Objective—No Attack Was Attempted by Them Last Night, Says a French Report

The French have been forced back still further on the defenses of Verdun in the face of two great German drives for the fortress, and the Teutons are now at one point not more than five and one-half miles from Verdun. Last night the lines, as established by the official bulletin, ran to the rear of Samogneux and on a northward curving directly through Beaumont to the east. To-day they stretch along the crest of hills to the east of Champneuville, five and one-half miles north of Verdun, and behind the old lines at Beaumont, showing the evacuation of the latter village by the French.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 25.—The German war office announced to-day the capture of all the French positions in the region north of Verdun as far as the ridge of Loudmont, just south of Beaumont. The number of prisoners was increased by 7,000 to 10,000. The capture of the fortified villages and farms of Champneuville, Cotelette, Marmont, Beaumont, Chambréttes and Ornes was also announced.

Paris, Feb. 25.—The fighting north of Verdun is diminishing in violence, the war office announced to-day. No attack by the Germans was attempted last night.

PILES OF GERMAN DEAD.
Littered the Battlefield, Said Paris Report Last Night.

Paris, Feb. 25.—North of Verdun the artillery duel continued, but there were no infantry attacks, says the official communication issued by the war office last night. Between the Meuse and Ornes several furious German attacks occurred, but the front was broken nowhere.

The text of the official communication issued by the war office last night reads: "In the region north of Verdun the enemy continued to bombard with the same intensity our front from the Meuse up to south of Fromezey. The artillery activity slackened a little between Malancourt and the left bank of the Meuse. No infantry action has occurred as yet in this region.

"Between the right bank of the Meuse and Ornes the enemy has shown the same ferocity as on the preceding day and multiplied his furious attacks, leaving on the ground piles of dead, without having succeeded in breaking our front.

"On both wings we have withdrawn our lines, one part behind Samogneux, the other to the south of Ornes. Our artillery has replied without respite to the artillery of the enemy."

SCHOONER BLOWN UP.
Two Men Known to Be Dead and Third Is Missing.
Boston, Feb. 25.—The fishing schooner Mary C. Santos with 23 men on board was blown up in the harbor by an explosion of gasolene yesterday.

Harry Fisher and Prescott Bent were killed and 10 others were sent to hospitals for treatment. Joseph Lewis is unaccounted for and is believed to have been drowned. The schooner sank soon afterward.

Outward bound for her home port, Provincetown, the schooner had stopped off the fish pier in South Boston to take on a stock of gasolene from an oil barge. Several cans had been taken aboard when the explosion shattered the forward part of the craft, tearing through the gallery in which part of the crew were at supper. Some of those seated there were blown through the house into the water.

TO DEMAND RELEASE
If Central Power Subjects Were Seized on the High Seas.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—The United States to-day instructed Ambassador Page at London to make inquiries at the British foreign office regarding the removal of 38 Germans, Austrians and Turks from the American steamship China in Asiatic waters and to demand the release of the prisoners if they were arrested on the high seas as indicated.

GERMAN SHIPS SEIZED.
Portugal Took Eight Vessels at St. Vincent, Cape Verde.

St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, Feb. 25.—Eight German steamships lying in the harbor were taken in charge yesterday by officials of the Portuguese government.

"OUR DUTY IS CLEAR,"
WROTE PRES. WILSON

No Nation Has the Right While War Is in Progress to Alter or Disregard the Principles Agreed Upon.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—President Wilson, at the end of two days of agitation in Congress for some action warning Americans off armed merchant ships of the European belligerents, last night wrote Senator Stone, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, that he could not consent to any abridgement of the rights of American citizens in any respect.

"The honor and self-respect of the nation is involved," he said. "We covet peace, and shall preserve it at any cost but the loss of honor."

The president expressed hope that explanations of the declared intentions of the central European powers to sink all armed merchant ships without warning would put a different aspect on a situation which now seemed to present insuperable obstacles.

"We have had no reason to question their good faith or their fidelity to their promises in the past," he added, "and I for one feel confident that we shall have none in the future."

The letter was in answer to one written last night by Senator Stone outlining the situation existing at the capital where since Wednesday morning persistent demands had been made for some action which might lessen the possibility of war between the United States and Germany. The letter follows:

The President's Letter.

"My Dear Senator:

"I very warmly appreciate your kind and frank letter of to-day and feel that it calls for an equally frank reply.

"You are right in assuming that I shall do everything in my power to keep the United States out of war. I think the country will feel no uneasiness about my course in that respect. Through many anxious months I have striven for that object, amidst difficulties more manifold than can have been apparent upon the surface; and so far I have succeeded. I do not doubt that I shall continue to do so. The course which the central European powers have announced their intention of following in the future with regard to undersea warfare seems for the moment to threaten insuperable obstacles, but its apparent meaning is so manifestly inconsistent with explicit assurances recently given us by those powers with regard to their treatment of merchant vessels on the high seas that I must believe that explanations will presently ensue which will put a different aspect upon it. We have had no reason to question their good faith or their fidelity to their promises in the past, and I for one feel confident that we shall have none in the future.

"But in any event, our duty is clear. No nation, no group of nations, has the right while war is in progress to alter or disregard the principles which all nations have agreed upon in mitigation of the horrors and sufferings of war; and if the clear rights of American citizens should ever unhappily be abridged or denied by any such action, we should, it seems to me, have in honor no choice as to what our own course should be.

"For my own part I cannot consent to any abridgement of the rights of American citizens in any respect. The honor and self-respect of the nation is involved. We covet peace, and shall preserve it at any cost but the loss of honor. To forbid our people to exercise their rights for fear we might be called upon to vindicate them would be a deep humiliation indeed. It would be an implicit, but an explicit, acquiescence in the violation of the rights of mankind everywhere and of whatever race or of whatever age. It would be a deliberate abdication of our hitherto proud position as spokesmen even amidst the turmoil of war for the law and the right. It would make everything this government has attempted and everything that it has achieved during this terrible struggle of nations meaningless and futile.

"It is important to reflect that if in this instance we allowed expediency to take the place of principle, the door would inevitably be opened to still further concessions and to a complete abandonment of right and many other humiliations would certainly follow, and the whole fine fabric of international law might crumble under our hands piece by piece. What we are contending for in this matter is of the very essence of the things that have made America a sovereign nation. She cannot yield them without conceding her own impotency as a nation and making virtual surrender of her independent position among the nations of the world.

"I am speaking, my dear senator, in deep solemnity, without heat, with a clear consciousness of the high responsibilities of my office, and as your sincere and devoted friend. If we should unhappily differ, we shall differ as friends; but where issues so momentous as those are involved, we must, just because we are friends, speak our minds without reservation.

"Faithfully yours,

The president wrote his letter during the afternoon, shutting himself up in his study while congressional leaders vainly attempted to get him on the telephone to tell him of developments at the capital, and to arrange for the call of the House leaders. He began to write after telephone conferences with cabinet members and other close advisers. His decision was to end all speculation over what the position of the government was, and to let Congress and the country know that the administration believed the United States could do nothing but stand behind the right of the citizens to the freedom of the seas.

ST. JOHNSBURY GIRL INJURED.

Nellie Cushman, Aged 5, Thrust Arm Into Milk Separator.
St. Johnsbury, Feb. 25.—Nellie Cushman, the five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Cushman, of East St. Johnsbury, was badly injured yesterday while playing with a milk separator. She and her sister were turning the machine when their mother interfered and warned them against the danger. The little girl attempted to stop the separator and thrust her right arm into the gearing. The arm was badly crushed and one bone broken near the wrist. It is thought that the hand will be saved.

GERMANY
IS SILENT

Secretary Lansing Reports That No Word Has Been Received

WILSON STILL FIRM AGAINST WARNING

But Is Told That the House Would Pass Resolution Two to One

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—As Secretary of State Lansing went to the cabinet meeting to-day he said that absolutely nothing has been received from Germany.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—President Wilson reiterated his opposition to any action in Congress warning Americans off armed ships, in a conference with Speaker Clark, Majority Leader Kitchin and Chairman Flood of the House foreign relations committee and they, in turn, told the president that such a resolution would pass the House two to one.

The president was unshaken in his position that Congress should take no action embarrassing to his contention that the rights of Americans on the seas must be upheld at any cost and he repeated what he had written last night to Senator Stone. The House leaders went away, telling the president that nothing would be done to-day, but they ventured no predictions for the future. They admitted that the situation is serious and they could not yet tell how far the sentiment in Congress would be swayed by the publication of the president's views in his letter to Senator Stone.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—"I think the chances are that Germany will postpone her threatened performance until April 1 or at least until the middle of March," said Speaker Clark to-day, regarding the proposed sinking of armed liners, after conference with President Wilson. "There is a rumor to that effect," he said, "and the postponement would give us more time."

Speaker Clark told President Wilson that if the resolution warning, such as the president opposes, were forced to a vote in the House now it would pass by a majority of two to one.

STANDS BY PRESIDENT.

Senator Lodge Is in Accord with His Views on Submarine Issue.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—Senator Lodge, the ranking Republican member of the foreign relations committee, declared in a statement to-day that he was in full accord with President Wilson's views on the submarine issue, as expressed in his letter to Senator Stone, and that he would stand by the president.

BRITISH MAKE GAIN.

Sprang a Mine and Then Occupied the Crater.

London, Feb. 25.—The British official statement issued last night on the campaign in the western zone reads: "We sprang a mine opposite Hulluch last night and occupied the crater. To-day an artillery duel about Bac St. Maur ended in our favor.

"Our artillery bombarded hostile trenches near Frelingheim, on the Ypres-Comines canal, and east of Boesinghe with success."

TO HAVE STATE TICKET.

Maine Progressives Are Preparing, Says H. P. Gardner.

Houlton, Me., Feb. 25.—"The Progressive party of Maine will have a complete state ticket," declared Hon. Halbert P. Gardner, Progressive state committee man and candidate for governor in 1914, at a meeting of Progressives here last night.

"The question often is asked 'Why put up a state ticket?' Mr. Gardner said, 'And Progressive voters are often told that the majority of the rank and file of the Republican party in Maine agree with us on state issues. We hold that while we may think alike on minor state issues, in the national fight the Progressives want the so-called Progressive Republicans to give some indication that they will act as they say they think.'"

"The bulk of the Progressives will not join with the Republicans on state matters when that action binds them to follow the Republican national organization."

ROBBERS USED DYNAMITE.

After Holding Up a Train East of Seattle.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 25.—The Northern Pacific's eastbound North Coast Limited train was held up yesterday a mile and a half east of Covington, 25 miles east of Seattle. The robbers uncoupled the baggage and mail cars and compelled the engine crew to haul the two cars up the track into the mountain forest.

A short time after the baggage mail cars and engine disappeared passengers in the cars left standing on the track heard an explosion. It is supposed the robbers dynamited the express car.

Automobiles filled with deputy sheriffs were dispatched from Seattle.

The flagman, who reported the hold-up from Covington, said the bandits fired several shots at him as he ran down the track to give the alarm, but he escaped unhurt. The flagman ran back to Covington as soon as he learned the robbers' purpose, and was unable to give details of the robbery.

SEEK TO RECOVER PROPERTY.

Administrator of An Estate Sues in Rutland County.

Rutland, Feb. 25.—A suit in chancery has been brought in Rutland county court in which the orator, James Comstock of Castleton, administrator of the estate of Ann Lynch, seeks to have a deed from Mr. Lynch to William Minogue and his wife set aside, claiming that the deed was obtained while Mrs. Lynch was in very poor health, the woman dying within a few days after the conveyance was signed. Attorneys Thomas W. Moloney and John S. Dorsey are counsel for the orator.

The case is brought against William Minogue, Norah Minogue and their son, John William Minogue, in whose name the property, which is located in the village of Castleton, now stands. The orator alleges in his papers, filed with County Clerk H. A. Harman yesterday, that Mrs. Lynch was very ill and that she had been in poor health for weeks prior to November 25, 1915, when she died to Mr. and Mrs. Minogue the piece of property which is worth \$1,000. This was given as a part for taking care of Mrs. Lynch, who died within a week.

The orator claims that Mrs. Lynch was not in fit mental condition to transact business and that the conveyance stopped Mrs. Agnes M. Hanley of Fair Haven from presenting a bill of \$350 for care of Mrs. Lynch in her lifetime. The property deeded to Mr. and Mrs. Minogue was later deeded to their son, who it is claimed, is a minor.

ALLEGED SWINDLER
ARRESTED ON YACHT

Man Who Answers Description of J. Grant Lyman Taken at St. Petersburg, Fla.—Had Much Cash with Him.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 25.—A man answering the description of J. Grant Lyman, wanted in New York for alleged defalcations of more than \$300,000, was arrested late yesterday on a yacht at St. Petersburg, Fla. He declined to answer questions as to his identity.

The man was said to have with him on the yacht several trunks and suitcases containing an elaborate wardrobe, \$14,905 in cash and a certified check for \$5,964 payable to the bearer and drawn on the "Manhattan company of New York." There were several endorsements on the check, police said, the last one being the signature "John H. Putnam and company." This was the name of an alleged fraudulent concern organized by Lyman in New York.

The yacht is said to have been purchased in Tampa last Saturday from two men whose names were given as "Smith" and as "Olson" and who police say recently bought the vessel here from Chicago.

New York, Feb. 25.—Lyman disappeared from New York two weeks ago after exposure of the stock swindling operations of the firm of John H. Putnam & Co., of which he was the head. He is alleged to have obtained more than \$300,000 by illegal use of the mails.

The fugitive, formerly a member of the New York Stock Exchange, forfeited \$20,000 bail and fled from Los Angeles, Cal., about two years ago, after his conviction and sentence to 15 months' imprisonment there for conducting a land fraud. He went to Europe, but returned and perpetrated a mail fraud in Boston, according to the postoffice authorities.

He opened an office here and engaged in business under the name of Putnam on Dec. 15 last.

FIRE DRILL EFFECTIVE.

Three Hundred Children Marched Out at East Weymouth, Mass.

East Weymouth, Mass., Feb. 25.—Three hundred pupils in the James Humphrey school marched out of the building yesterday afternoon while a fire raged in the basement. Smoke was discovered coming through the lower floor and the pupils, marshaled by Head Master Joseph Crowell, left the building in fire drill order and without injury. The building was badly damaged.

The building was a two-story brick structure with the interior sheathed in wood.

The students had begun their afternoon lessons, when a boy on the lower floor saw smoke coming through a crack in the floor beside his seat. Instead of shouting "fire," he notified the teacher, who at once rang the alarm for the fire drill.

Many of the students took their places in line with the idea that it was a customary drill.

The entire student body left the building in a minute and a half. The teachers said that it was the best fire drill the school had ever had. Some of the pupils lost their wraps and most of the school property was either burned or damaged.

The interior of the building was badly damaged, the floor on one side falling into the basement. The loss was estimated at \$15,000.

SPED BY SIGNALS

Was Evidence Introduced in the Milford Wreck Inquiry.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 25.—Testimony that extra passenger train No. 5, on the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad ran by, at high speed, a signal set at "caution" against it Tuesday, just before it ploughed into the stalled Connecticut River express in Milford, resulting in 10 deaths, was given yesterday at the joint hearing of the interstate commerce commission and the state public utilities commission. One of the witnesses said this running past signal was "a common occurrence."

Further testimony was to the effect that a third man was in the engine cab of the extra train with Engineer W. R. Curtis and Fireman McGinnis, which is contrary to the rules.

Other testimony was that the signals on the stretch of track involved in the disaster were in good working condition before and after the accident. However, it was testified, there have been complaints of the failure of the signal system to work properly, these averaging about one a week.

NO LOSS OF LIFE
IN SEA CRASH

Liner Cretan Struck Steamer During Fog off of Cape Hatteras

PASSENGERS TAKEN TO A PASSING SHIP

Disabled Liner Is Being Conveyed to Norfolk, Va.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 25.—The Merchant & Miners' liner Cretan from Philadelphia collided with the steamer Dorothy in the fog early this morning 14 miles off Cape Hatteras and is being conveyed to port by the Dorothy, according to a wireless message. Twenty-eight passengers were removed from the Cretan to the Dorothy. Further report said that the damages to the Cretan were slight and that there was no loss of life on either the Cretan or the Dorothy.

GROUNDED STEAMER
NOT DAMAGED

The Juniata Was Floated After Accident in Vineyard Sound But Can Not Go to Port Because of Fog.

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Feb. 25.—The steamer Juniata of the Merchant and Miners' line, which grounded in Vineyard sound Wednesday, was floated to-day apparently undamaged. A part of the cargo has been lightened. Because of the fog the steamer could not continue her voyage to Boston and anchored.

PROPOSE A POWER PLANT.

Central Power Co. Given Hearing at Middlebury.

Middlebury, Feb. 25.—The public service commission held a public hearing yesterday in the Addison county court house and the following commissioners were present: William R. Warner of Vergennes, Robert C. Bacon of Brattleboro and Walter A. Dutton of Hardwick. The hearing was held for the purpose of taking testimony relative to the petition of the Central Power company of Vermont, consisting of Charles H. Thompson, Benjamin A. Sumner, Dean K. Lullie, H. J. M. Jones of Montpelier, Alexander Gordon of Barre, Frank H. Stuart and Albert H. Stuart of Newton, Mass., for the purpose of getting permission to construct and maintain an electric power plant at East Middlebury on the Middlebury river and its tributaries. The company has a capital of \$1,000,000, which is divided into 10,000 shares at \$100.

The petitioners were represented by Attorneys E. M. Harvey and F. B. Thomas of Montpelier and Ira H. LaFleur of Middlebury, the Battell estate by James B. Donaway and Robert W. McCuen of Middlebury and the Barre Power company by W. W. Stickney of Ludlow. There was also a large array of legal talent representing a number of different interests. The hearing will run into another day, as there are many witnesses yet to be examined. In the absence of Attorney-General H. G. Barber, the state's interest was looked after by State Attorney Allen R. Sturtevant of Middlebury.

CALL WITT A "COMER."

Goddard Seminary Athlete Pleases Connie Mack.

Philadelphia, Feb. 25.—Connie Mack is enthusiastic over the future of his new baseball machine. His latest find is Lawton Witt, a schoolboy who played last season in Skowhegan, Me. Witt will go next month to the college of Ludlow, Me. Witt is a "find" of Harry Davis. Both Connie and Davis heard that a young wonder was a student at Goddard seminary, Barre, Vt., and was playing in a Maine league. Davis saw the youth, and after looking him over was sure he was a "comer."

Sam Crane of the Richmond team is the lad upon whom Connie looks to develop into a whale of a shortstop.

OPPOSES PLEDGED DELEGATES.

Gov. McCall Says that Times and Sentiment Change.

New Bedford, Mass., Feb. 25.—Governor McCall told the diners at the Bristol County Republicans' banquet last night that he believed the present to be no time for pledging a delegation from this state to the Chicago convention.

"The man who seems a strong candidate to-day," he added, "may be weak in June. The times are so kaleidoscopic each day a new international crisis is likely to come up, and I doubt if we as individual Republicans should want at this time to commend the convention in June to any particular candidate. Whatever our personal wish may be it must be treated merely as an aspiration, for not the wish of March but the judgment of June is demanded."

DEATH OF C. C. RINEHART.

Well Known Railroad Man of Woodsville Dead.

Woodsville, N. H., Feb. 25.—Carroll C. Rinehart, assistant superintendent of the White Mountain division of the Boston and Maine railroad, died yesterday at Young's hospital, Center Haverhill, where he had undergone an operation for appendicitis last Saturday. His death came as a great shock to this community and to the business world in which he moved, owing to his brief illness.

HELD ANNUAL JOLLIFICATION.

Barre Aerie of Eagles the Hosts at Pleasant Party.

Sixty couples were royally entertained in the Knights of Columbus hall on North Main street last night, the occasion being the annual banquet and dance of Barre aerie, No. 1,573, Fraternal Order of Eagles. A substantial Italian dinner, served at 8 o'clock, was the main feature of the Eagles' yearly jollification. Covers were laid for 125 people and every chair at the tables was occupied. Mrs. P. D. Molla had charge of the culinary service and she was ably assisted by a number of young women. The menu included a number of rare Italian delicacies in addition to the staple pieces of resistance, and as a whole the novelty of a well-turned Italian dinner was the subject of much favorable comment from the diners.

Afterdinner exercises were brief but each number was warmly received. President David McDonald of Barre aerie acted as chairman and after his cordial address of welcome there was an impromptu musical program. Orchestral overtures were numerous and several finely rendered vocal solos were loudly applauded. Among those who sang were: Thomas McDonald, Alexander Massie and James Hastings. Dancing was enjoyed until after midnight, the merry-making being interrupted only by a brief intermission at 10:30 o'clock, when dainty refreshments were served.

The committee in charge of the affair consisted of the following Eagles: David McDonald, Guy Ottoloni, Paul Bianchi, Louis Colagangi, James Hastings, P. Trentini, Richard Attridge and Charles A. Lundgren.

DEATH OF RAILROAD WORKER.

William M. Grant Had Been Ill a Long Time.

William M. Grant of Pearl street, yard master for the Central Vermont railroad in this city for the past four years, passed away at the city hospital soon after noon to-day, the end following a prolonged illness. Mr. Grant was removed to the hospital six weeks ago. He was critically ill from the outset, although a fortnight ago his condition showed material improvement and hopes of his recovery were entertained. The body was removed this afternoon to the undertaking establishment of Perry & Noonan on Depot square and arrangements for the funeral will be made later. So far as can be learned, Mr. Grant is without relatives in this vicinity. With the exception of a sister, whose whereabouts is unknown, it is thought that he is without relatives in America. He was born in Hammersmith, London, England, 30 years ago and came to America as a young man. In Providence, R. I., he started to learn the railroad business and for some years he made his home in Rhode Island. Several years ago he came to Barre and began work in the Central Vermont freight yard as a brakeman. Afterward he was promoted to the position of yard master, an appointment which amply justified his retention. Mr. Grant was a member of the brotherhood of railroad trainmen and also belonged to the Eagles. Members of the railroad brotherhood are looking after the funeral arrangements.

VOTE TO BUY PARSONAGE.

Barre Baptists Secure John L. Wallace's House at Franklin Street.

Parishioners of the First Baptist church met last evening and voted to purchase the residence of John L. Wallace at 27 Franklin street for a parsonage. A deed conveying the property to the church will be signed to-morrow and it is understood that possession will be given sometime in the latter part of March. Through the transaction the church acquires a dwelling that is admirably suited to the uses of a parsonage. There is a garage on the premises, which is included in the sale.

Rev. W. A. Devison of Rutland, field secretary of the Vermont state Baptist convention, was present last evening and after business connected with the parsonage had been consummated, the question of securing a pastor to succeed Rev. G. H. Holt was discussed. It is thought that a favorable reply will be received at once from Rev. Bert J. Lehigh of Oswego, N. Y., to whom a call was extended some weeks ago. The candidate from Oswego was anxious to have the use of a parsonage should he accept the Barre call and it is believed that he will see fit to act favorably when he learns that a suitable residence has been secured for him here.

FORMER NEWSPAPER EDITOR.

James H. Livingston, Founder of Bennington Banner, Is Dead.

Bennington, Feb. 25.—James H. Livingston, who established the Bennington Banner in 1883 and edited the paper for nearly 30 years, died late yesterday afternoon at his home in this village. He was in his 69th year.

He began learning the printers' trade when 13 years of age and in 1883 went to New York, where he was employed as a compositor and later as reporter on morning dailies.

In 1873 he founded the Weekly Standard at Housick Falls, N. Y., and ten years later the Banner in Bennington.

He sold the latter paper in 1902 and had since been engaged in the job printing business.

HAD SEVERAL SPEAKERS

Swanton Board of Trade Gave Banquet Last Evening.

Swanton, Feb. 25.—The fifth annual banquet of the Swanton Board of Trade at the Grand Avenue hotel last evening taxed the seating capacity of the dining room and was one of the best yet held.

Among the speakers were Justice George M. Powers of the Vermont supreme court, President Reeves of Norwich university, Warren R. Austin of St. Albans, F. B. Clark, vice-president of the Robins Hood Amusement company, and Rev. Father Aubin of the Congregational church was toastmaster. D. G. Farman is president of the Board of Trade, S. G. Webster secretary and L. G. Irwin treasurer. Those in charge of the banquet were T. M. Tobin, A. B. Anderson and George Loiselle.

MAY VOTE ON
STATE ISSUES

If Men Have Become of Age After April 1, 1915, Says Barre Board

NO ACTION TAKEN ON DELINQUENTS

That Will Come Up at Meeting Next Week—Changes Made in the Checklist

Ninety names were added to the checklist at the first meeting of the board of civil authority last evening and 60 changes were made at the request of persons who have changed their residences, transferring from one ward to another, since the March election of 1915. Fifteen members of the board were present and work on the checklist continued until near midnight, although a good deal of the time was taken up with examining and swearing in voters who are to exercise the franchise for the first time on the 7th of March. F. G. Howland presided over the deliberations of the board.

A definite stand on the question of permitting persons who reached the voting age after April 1, 1915, to vote on state issues was taken when the board decided to allow such voters to ballot on the prohibition and primary referendums. Those who were not of age until April 1, 1915, manifestly could not have been listed for taxation last year and the fact that they are not taxpayers does not, according to the action of the Barre board, bar them from participation in the vote on state issues.

No action has been taken by the local board on the question of participation in the ballot by voters who are delinquent taxpayers; but it is expected that the question will come up next week when the names of 30 delinquent taxpayers on the checklist will be considered. Attorney General H. G. Barber has given the opinion that those who failed to pay their taxes prior to Feb. 15 are not eligible to vote on those two referendums. The influx of voters seeking for the first time the right to use the freeman's franchise was considerably larger last evening than usual at the first meeting of the board. Fully a half of the 90 who appeared are citizens who have been naturalized since the last election, and the proportion may be even larger. Many were young men who have attained their majority since the last March meeting. Much work was accomplished in the way of ridding the check-lists of delinquents and much remains to be done in this direction.

Only six changes were necessary in revising the list of officers who are to serve in the various wards on election day. Death and removals account for a majority of the changes, although in two instances ward officers who served in 1915 were disqualified because they are candidates this year. The assignments are given below.

Ward 1.—Clerk, George N. Tilden; inspectors, Harry McNeil, George F. Howe, G. I. Beckley; ballot clerks, W. J. Clapp, John Paul, D. R. Stewart, Charles Oliver; assistants, E. J. Owens, O. E. Philbrick.

Ward 2.—Clerk, Charles A. Lundgren; inspectors, B. P. White, H. W. Clark, Robert Inglis; ballot clerks, H. A. Rugg, R. S. Currier, John Jones, John Rowley; assistants, James Brown, A. G. Fay.

Ward 3.—Clerk, F. W. Bauerott; inspectors, C. C. Varney, G. H. Hoyt, J. B. Sanguinetti; ballot clerks, William McDonald, Joseph M. Nelson, Atto Mariani, Alex. W. Murray; assistants, F. T. Cutler and T. H. Cave, Jr.

Ward 4.—Clerk, Duncan McMillan, jr.; inspectors, James Moruzzi, B. B. Jackson, James Glass; ballot clerks, G. I. Gregoire, Thomas C. Carson, William Skeritt, John Rice; assistants, J